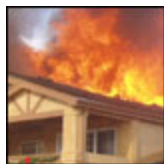


## Burned condo slated for demolition; residents only allowed to salvage belongings in garage

Written by: [Jinah Kim](#), 9NEWS Reporter

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**LITTLETON** - A condominium complex hit by fire on Christmas is a complete loss. Littleton city inspectors told the people who lost their homes the bad news on Friday.

The building at 9815 W. Freiburg Place is scheduled for demolition.

The inspector would only let residents get what was left in the garages, which were least damaged during the blaze. Everything else—the things in the main part of their homes—they will never see again.

A lot of the residents pleaded to be allowed back into their homes to rummage through their belongings, but the inspector told them it is not worth losing a life. The building is just not stable enough.

People took out bikes, golf clubs, unopened boxes and anything else they could get, which wasn't much.

The fire began shortly after 11 a.m. Thursday, and by the time it was done, eight condos were destroyed.

"I'm just glad no one was hurt," said fire victim Ruthie Clark.

The Littleton Fire Department says reduced water pressure did not compromise firefighting efforts. Crews said when they first arrived at the complex they could only use one hose because of the low water pressure.

"Had we had adequate water supply, I'm fairly confident we still would have had the failure of the roof assembly into the second floor of the building," said Littleton Deputy Fire Marshal Rick Young.

On Friday, a Denver Water Board manager said several valves were shut off in the area, but they didn't know why, and they couldn't say if that was the main reason for the low water pressure.

Four families were put up in hotels overnight and the Littleton Fire Union donated \$500 to each family affected by the fire.

Fire investigators say the fire started on a deck.

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9NEWS Reporter Jinah Kim with more on the investigation into Thursday's condo fire. 5 p.m. Dec. 26, 2003.



Courtesy: Susie Hillebrandt  
Crews attack the condo complex fire from the roof. Dec. 25, 2003.

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